EXHIBIT D

1	IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT			
2	FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS			
3	HOUSTON DIVISION			
4	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA			
5				
6 7	V.		February 16, 2023 Houston, Texas 1:09:56 p.m.	
8	STEFAN HRVATIN, TOM COOPERMAN, MITCHELL HENNESSEY		4:22-cr-612-5 4:22-cr-612-6 4:22-cr-612-7	
10				
11	ARRAIGNMENTS / MOTIONS HEARING			
12	BEFORE THE HONORABLE DENA HANOVICE PALERMO			
13	UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE			
14	APPEARANCES:			
15	For the United States	The area of Court on	A LIC A	
16	For the officed states	•	Attorney's Office	
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19	For Detendant Hivatin	Mallett Saper	3 ·	
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25	Proceedings from official eletranscript produced by court			
	DIGITAL SCROLL TRANSCRIPTION		281 382 9862	

DIGITAL SCROLL TRANSCRIPTION

281.382.9862

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17		United States Propaction Utilice
18		
19		
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		

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1
             THE COURT: Good afternoon, everybody.
 2
                  I call the United States of America versus
    Stefan Hrvatin, Tom Cooperman and Mitchell Hennessey,
 3
 4
    Case No. 4:22-cr-612.
 5
                  Can I have the appearances of counsel for the
 6
    record?
 7
             MR. CARTER: Thomas Carter for the Government, Your
 8
    Honor.
 9
             MR. ZADEH: Sina Zadeh for Tom Cooperman, Your Honor.
10
             MS. CORDOVA: Your Honor, I believe Mr. Mallett is
11
    muted there.
12
             THE COURT: Okay. Who is counsel for Mr. Hrvatin?
1.3
             MR. MALLETT: I am here.
14
             THE COURT: Who is that on?
15
             MR. MALLETT: Edward Mallett. I was - I was muted.
16
    She's right. I'm sorry.
17
             THE COURT: Okay. That's fine.
18
                  And then, who is counsel for Mr. Hennessey?
             MS. CORDOVA: Good afternoon, Your Honor.
19
20
                  Laura Cordova and Michael Murtha on behalf of
21
    Mr. Hennessey.
22
             THE COURT: Thank you.
23
                  Okay. So, let's start with the very easy stuff.
    I always like to start with the easy stuff.
24
25
                  We'll do the Arraignment first. Okay?
```

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1
                  So, I see Mr. Hrvatin - am I saying the name
 2
    wrong, I'm sure?
 3
             DEFENDANT HRVATIN: Hrvatin, Your Honor.
 4
             THE COURT: Hrvatin, okay.
 5
                  Thank you.
                  Okay. So, Mr. Hrvatin, I see you.
 6
 7
                  Mr. Cooperman, where are you?
             DEFENDANT COOPERMAN: Right here, Your Honor - in
 8
 9
    front of you.
10
             THE COURT: Oh, right behind you.
                  Okay. Got that.
11
12
                  And then, Mr. Hennessey, where are you?
1.3
             DEFENDANT HENNESSEY: Hi, Your Hon- -- hi, Your
14
    Honor.
15
             THE COURT: Okay. Got you over there.
16
                  All right. Perfect. All right.
17
                  So, first I need all three of you to agree to
18
    appear by video. You are appearing by video from various
    places, as is everybody else on this call, because of the
19
20
    Pandemic.
21
                  So, do each of you agree to go forward with this
22
    appearance by video?
23
                  Mr. Hrvatin?
24
             DEFENDANT HRVATIN: I do, Your Honor.
25
             THE COURT: Mr. Cooperman?
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1
             DEFENDANT COOPERMAN: Yes, Your Honor.
 2
             THE COURT: And, Mr. Hennessey?
 3
             DEFENDANT HENNESSEY: Yes, Your Honor.
 4
             THE COURT: Okay.
 5
                  Let the record reflect that all three have
 6
    agreed to go forward by video?
 7
                  All right. So, do - do counsel waive the formal
 8
    reading of the charges?
 9
             MR. MALLETT: We do, Your Honor.
10
             MR. ZADEH: We do, Your Honor.
             MS. CORDOVA: Yes, Your Honor.
11
12
             THE COURT: Thank you.
1.3
                  Okay. So, this is a Superseding Indictment.
                  So, Mr. Carter, can you just summarize for us
14
15
    what the new charges are and what the penalty range is for
16
    those charges?
17
             MR. CARTER: Thank you, Your Honor.
18
                  For the Superseding Indictment, all of the
19
    additional charges are substantive Counts. They all carry the
20
    same punishment range, which is up to 25 years of
    incarceration in the Bureau of Prisons, up to a $250,000 fine
2.1
22
    or twice the gain or loss of the particular charge and up to
23
    five years of supervised release following the incarceration
24
    and a one hundred-dollar special assessment for each Count of
25
    conviction.
```

1 THE COURT: Okay. And what are - and the substantive 2 charges are? MR. CARTER: Yes, Your Honor. 3 4 THE COURT: And will it apply as to each Defendant or 5 only to particular Defendants? 6 MR. CARTER: Mr. Hrvatin has - received no new 7 charges. So, his charges remain the same. The punishment 8 range remains the same for Mr. Hrvatin as well. 9 Mr. Cooperman has additional charges in the Superseding Indictment, specifically, Count 16, referencing 10 ticker symbol NAKD; Count 17, referencing ticker symbol EZFL 11 12 and Count 19, referencing ticker symbol, star ticker symbol 1.3 PTXY. 14 For Mr. Cooperman - I'm sorry, Mr. Hennessey he has three additional charges in the Superseding Indictment 15 that were not included originally in the original Indictment. 16 17 They are Count No. 8, referencing the ticker 18 symbol RGLS; Count No. 9, referencing a different timeframe on 19 the same ticker symbol RGLS; in Count No. 11, referencing 20 ticker symbol ALZN. 21 THE COURT: Okay. 22 Thank you for that. 23 All right. So, starting with Mr. Hrvatin, have 24 you had a chance to discuss these new charges against you with 25 your attorney?

```
1
             DEFENDANT HRVATIN: I have, yes, Your Honor.
 2
             THE COURT: And do you understand the charges?
 3
             DEFENDANT HRVATIN: I do. Yes, Your Honor.
 4
             THE COURT: And the penalties?
 5
             DEFENDANT HRVATIN: Yes, Your Honor.
 6
             THE COURT: Okay.
 7
                  So, how do you plead to the Superseding
    Indictment?
 8
 9
             DEFENDANT HRVATIN: Not quilty.
10
             THE COURT: Okay. A not guilty plea has been entered
11
    on your behalf.
12
                  Mr. Cooperman, have you had a chance to discuss
1.3
    these new charges against you with your attorney?
14
             DEFENDANT COOPERMAN: Yes, Your Honor.
15
             THE COURT: And you understand the charges?
16
             DEFENDANT COOPERMAN: Yes, Your Honor.
17
             THE COURT: And you understand the penalties?
18
             DEFENDANT COOPERMAN: Yes, Your Honor.
19
             THE COURT: How do you plead to the Superseding
20
    Indictment? Guilty or not guilty?
21
             DEFENDANT COOPERMAN: Not guilty.
22
                  Not guilty, Your Honor.
23
             THE COURT: All right. A not guilty plea has been
24
    entered on your behalf.
```

```
1
                  Mr. Hennessey, you've had a chance to discuss
 2
    the new charges against you with your attorney?
 3
             DEFENDANT HENNESSEY: Yes, Your Honor.
 4
             THE COURT: And you understand the charges?
 5
             DEFENDANT HENNESSEY: Yes, Your Honor.
             THE COURT: And you understand the penalty ranges?
 6
 7
             DEFENDANT HENNESSEY: Yes, Your Honor.
 8
             THE COURT: So, how do you plead to the Superseding
 9
    Indictment? Guilty or not guilty?
10
             DEFENDANT COOPERMAN: Not guilty, Your Honor.
             THE COURT: Okay. A not guilty plea has been entered
11
12
    on your behalf.
13
                  And, Mr. Hrvatin, no new charges have been
    brought against you, but it is a Superseding Indictment, and
14
15
    you - you do understand everything that's been brought?
16
             DEFENDANT HRVATIN: Yes, Your Honor.
17
             THE COURT: Okay.
                  Thank you so much for that.
18
19
             DEFENDANT HRVATIN: Uh-huh.
20
             THE COURT: All right. So, the - we have a
2.1
    Scheduling Order that's in place in this case in front of
22
    Judge Hanen. It's still in front of Judge Hanen. It's still
    set for trial on October 23rd, 2023. Okay?
23
24
                  So, we're good on that?
25
             MS. CORDOVA: Your Honor, I would just note that
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since the Initial Arraignment for Mr. Hennessey, Mr. Hennessey has filed a motion to assert his Speedy Trial rights. That is currently pending in front of Judge Hanen.

THE COURT: Yeah. Okay.

Well, Mr. Hennessey's motion will be taken up by Judge Hanen. Okay.

So, for today's hearing, in addition to the Arraignment, we have multiple - multiple motions. And let me just get to the - this part.

Okay.

So, I'm going to start again with the easy one, and that's Mr. Hrvatin's motion to amend the conditions of his release. And the Government does not oppose that; is that correct?

MR. CARTER: We do not oppose it in the sense that it is amending his conditions that he must be under home confinement. That's not a federal requirement for any of the Defendants.

THE COURT: Okay. So, he will continue to be on the GPS monitor but not in home confinement. Is that - that's my understanding of what the - what the motion is asking for and that the Government is not opposing it.

Am I stating that correctly, Mr. Mallett?

MR. MALLETT: That's correct, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Okay?

1.3

1 So, that bond condition will be modified. 2 Do we have a copy of his current bond conditions? 3 4 Do I have one? 5 MR. MALLETT: I have a copy, and I believe his 6 current bond conditions are likely in PACER. I attached an 7 order, a proposed order as Document 113-1 -8 THE COURT: Yes. 9 MR. MALLETT: -- to the Motion to Modify. 10 THE COURT: I got that. 11 MR. MALLETT: Okay? 12 THE COURT: And - and the motion I'll - I will grant 1.3 your motion. However, what I like to do is have a single 14 document that says all the conditions of release so that 15 nobody is confused. So, what we will do is we will enter an amended conditions of release, using our typical form so that 16 17 it will be in conformity with all the other ones that have 18 been entered in this district. 19 And so, if you - Mr. Mallett, if you want to 20 take my normal conditions of release form and mark it up the 2.1 way that you think it should be marked in accordance with the 22 current conditions, submit that to Mr. Carter and then submit 23 it to me, I will enter it. Okay? 24 MR. MALLETT: And I believe that Ms. Felchak can help 25 me get a copy of yours so that I -

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1
             THE COURT: I will send one to you right away.
 2
    sir.
 3
             MR. MALLETT: Thank you, Judge. Thanks.
 4
             CASE MANAGER: And I will send one to all the
 5
    attorneys after this hearing, Judge.
 6
             THE COURT: Okay.
 7
                  That sounds great.
 8
                  All right. So, I think that takes care of
 9
    Mr. Hrvatin. So, you're excused.
10
             DEFENDANT HRVATIN: Thank you, Your Honor.
11
             THE COURT: Thank you.
12
                  Mr. Mallett, You're excused.
1.3
                  Thank you.
14
                  All right. Now, the second easiest one.
15
                  This is how I told my children to do their
    homework, start with the easiest stuff first. This way it
16
17
    makes you feel like you're accomplishing something.
18
                  All right. So, we've gotten done with one, now,
19
    let's go to the next.
20
                  Mr. Cooperman.
                  Okay. You're asking to travel to Lafayette,
21
22
    Louisiana and to Cancun, Mexico. I have absolutely no problem
23
    with Lafayette, Louisiana. I have complete agida over Cancun,
    Mexico. And has the Government -
24
25
                  I don't see a Government response to this.
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1 Mr. Carter, have you filed a response to this 2 motion? MR. CARTER: Your Honor, we have, and it's - I want 3 4 to say off the top of my head it's Docket No. 132, but I'll 5 check that for you. I've also forwarded it to Ms. Felchak, so 6 she might have one in her In box. 7 THE COURT: Carol, can you put that in my file, 8 please? 9 MR. CARTER: In a nutshell, we have the same agida as 10 the Court, and we're not - we are not opposed to him going to 11 Lafayette. 12 MR. ZADEH: And, Your Honor, if I may just quickly -1.3 this was something that was booked way before the charges were 14 even filed or any idea of these charges being brought forward. 15 It's just to go to Cancun, Mexico for - and really three days 16 to see a couple of wedding venues. And this was, again, but

And I understand the Court's, you know, dilemma here with the passport issue and traveling, but

Mr. Cooperman -

THE COURT: It's no dilemma. He's not going. He could either let his fiancé go by herself, or they can even get married in the United States. I don't really care. I don't care that it was booked before he was indicted. He's been indicted. He's under a bond. He's not leaving the

before any of - any of these charges.

17

18

19

20

21

22

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1
    country on my say so. If you don't like that answer, you can
 2
    go ask Judge Hanen, but I am not allowing him to leave the
 3
    country.
 4
             MR. ZADEH: So, I appreciate that, Your Honor.
 5
                  Thank you.
 6
             THE COURT: Okay.
                  So, that was the second easiest one. I think
 7
 8
    that takes care of all the issues with regard to you.
 9
                  So, you can be excused.
10
             MR. ZADEH: So, just to be clear, the Lafayette is
11
    approved, Your Honor? He can leave today?
12
             THE COURT: It is approved; yes, he can go. That's
1.3
    fine.
14
             MR. ZADEH: Thank you, Your Honor.
15
                  May we be excused?
             THE COURT: You're excused.
16
17
                  Thank you.
18
             DEFENDANT COOPERMAN: Thank you, Your Honor.
19
             THE COURT: All right.
20
                  So, now that brings us to the one that's a
2.1
    little bit hairier.
22
                  Government's motion with respect to
23
    Mr. Hennessey.
                  So, I will let you argue that, Mr. Carter, and
24
25
    then I will let the Defense argue their response. And then,
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we'll talk about it.

1.3

MR. CARTER: Your Honor, you've read the motion.

THE COURT: Yes.

MR. CARTER: This Defendant is in certainly in no situation different than any of those co-Defendants. They've all been found to require GPS to insure their appearance in court.

As Mr. Hennessey sits in front of you today, I don't know where he is - no idea - and neither does the Court. And quite frankly, neither do his lawyers. And I couldn't say. Your Honor, without getting too far into it, he - he - he is alleged to have made millions on this scheme, which he could use to excise himself from this case very quickly. He is physically the furthest person from this court. Allegedly, he's in the northeast somewhere. Again, I couldn't tell you exactly where, if that's true at all.

And finally, I would point you to the District Court's guidance in this case, and one of his co-Defendants, Mr. Matlock, has already applied to have his GPS removed on such grounds, not particularly that he has to do physical labor or anything like that, but similar grounds, and the Court denied that quickly.

Your Honor, he clearly has every incentive to not show up, and now, with the Superseding Indictment he has three more reasons not to.

THE COURT: Okay.

1.3

Ms. Cordova, Your Honor, despite Mr. Carter's recent claims about not knowing where Mr. Hennessey is, he is in constant contact with his Pretrial Services Officer in New Jersey. It's very clear we're here, so I'm not really sure where that's coming from.

The one thing I would note at the outset is that the Government has changed it's position on distrust. When Mr. Hennessey made his Initial Appearance - he was arrested and he made his Initial Appearance in New Jersey, the same prosecuting offense, the criminal process, he did not request GPS monitoring. Pretrial Services did not request GPS monitoring.

The only basis that's stated in the motion for Requesting GPS monitoring is that other Defendants have GPS monitoring. That is not the standard; that is not the law. The law is that each Defendant should be judged on his own merits and whether he requires additional restrictive conditions to reasonably assure his appearance at - in these proceedings.

Mr. Hennessey has been on bond for over two months. He has complied completely with those conditions. He has appeared at every hearing in this case. There has been absolutely no hint of a violation for over two months without the restrictive conditions of GPS monitoring.

1.3

2.1

So, the idea that he needs it because other people need it is just not grounded in the law or in the facts. I won't go into all the details - we laid them out in our brief - but Mr. Hennessey has very strong ties to his community. He grew up in the same community; he's living with his parents, who are on the - their cell phones here at this hearing in New Jersey where he and his family are deeply involved in the community. They have been for - for a very long time, decades. And so, he has a lot of incentives to stay, which is what he's doing and to appear in this case and to clear his name. And that's -

The Government hasn't shown otherwise. The Government hasn't pointed to anything that demonstrates that Mr. Hennessey is a flight risk. The evidence demonstrates otherwise. He's not a flight risk. He's here, and there's no reason for that. There are no such additional conditions to be imposed, Your Honor, at this time.

(Pause in the proceedings.)

THE COURT: I appreciate the argument, and,

Ms. Cordova, you make a compelling argument, which, you know,
in the abstract I wouldn't have a problem with. When

Mr. Cooperman appeared in front of me on his first hearing, we
amended his bond conditions to add the GPS monitor. It had
not been put on him in the court that he was in in California.

I don't know whether it was requested or not, but it wasn't

1.3

put on him. But when he appeared in front of me, I put it on him, and Mr. Hennessey will have a GPS monitor put on him as well. This -

The Government has not seized all the money that is alleged that the Defendants have gotten in this case. They have - he has access to millions of dollars, according to what I understand. That makes him a flight risk. And even though he's appeared for two months, two months is not a very long time. And so, I will order that he gets a GPS monitor put on him.

MS. CORDOVA: Your Honor -

THE COURT: I don't know how those arrangements will be made. I guess it has to - Pretrial in New Jersey will have to do that. So, he will need to report to Pretrial in New Jersey to have the monitor affixed.

Is there someone from Pretrial on this call?

PRETRIAL SERVICES OFFICER: Yes, Your Honor,

Bradley Woermke with the Pretrial Office in Houston.

THE COURT: Oh.

Good afternoon, Mr. - Officer Woermke.

So, how do we get that done?

PRETRIAL SERVICES OFFICER: I'm communicating with his Officer, Mr. Levin (phonetic), in New Jersey right now, and I just let him know that you ordered GPS, and we'll get him hooked up.

1 THE COURT: Okay.
2 All right.
3 MS. CORDOVA: If I could, Your Honor?

1.3

2.1

If I may just to make a note for the record, the Government has alleged a broad conspiracy of a hundred and fourteen million dollars. But the only allegations against Mr. Hennessey amount to just a few hundred thousand. And the Government has not made any new allegations; he has not demonstrated any evidence that he actually has received millions of dollars.

I just wanted to point that out for the record. THE COURT: Okay.

I appreciate that.

Mr. Carter did just say millions of dollars, but, you know, I understand that the allegations might not be as specific as to all the money that he's come into. I don't have the details of that.

This is not my case, so I am not as familiar with it as you all are and as Judge Hanen will be by the time that this case is over, so I am not infused in the nittygritty details of this case or how it applies to each and every one of these Defendants.

But Judge Hanen did enter an order, ECF No. 40, which says that the modifications to the bond shall be made in parity with others similarly situated. And so, it is my

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belief that in a case like this a GPS monitor is called for.
 1
                  And so, that is how I - that's how I do it.
 2
 3
    Whenever I have financial fraud cases where there's an
 4
    allegation of millions of dollars having been, you know,
 5
    somehow or other taken and that money hasn't been seized by
 6
    the Government, I require a GPS monitor, because to me it's a
 7
    flight risk situation.
 8
             MR. CARTER: Thank you, Your Honor.
 9
             THE COURT: All right.
10
                  What else do we need to do then with regard to
11
    Mr. Hennessey?
12
             PRETRIAL SERVICES OFFICER: Excuse me, Your Honor.
1.3
             MS. CORDOVA: Your Honor -
14
             THE COURT: Okay.
15
                  Go ahead.
16
             PRETRIAL SERVICES OFFICER: Your Honor, the GPS
17
    monitoring will that be stand-alone technology?
18
             THE COURT: You know, however you - however they - I
19
    think everybody else is on stand-alone.
20
                  Is that correct, Mr. Carter?
             MR. CARTER: I believe so. We had this discussion
21
22
    with Mr. Cooperman, and I believe we came down on stand-alone.
23
             THE COURT: Yeah, I think we came back down to stand-
24
    alone after going around in a circle.
25
                  So, yes, stand-alone is fine.
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PRETRIAL SERVICES OFFICER: Thank you, Your Honor.
 1
 2
             THE COURT: Okay.
 3
                  Anything else?
 4
                  That was the big issue in the - in the motion as
 5
    far as I was concerned. Was there anything else in that
 6
    motion that needed to be addressed?
 7
             MR. CARTER: Not from the Government, Your Honor.
 8
             MS. CORDOVA: Your Honor, do you intend to enter the
 9
    standard conditions like the other Defendants in this case?
10
             THE COURT:
                        Yes.
11
                  And though I would like -
             MS. CORDOVA: The reason I -
12
1.3
             THE COURT: Go ahead.
14
             MS. CORDOVA: Oh. I was going to say the reason I
    ask is because one of the conditions that Mr. Hennessey was
15
16
    subjected to in New Jersey was that he could not trade, and we
17
    would ask that that be removed.
18
                  We have conferred with the Government; they do
19
    not oppose removing that restriction.
20
                         That he can't - that he - that he should
             THE COURT:
2.1
    be allowed to continue trading in stocks and bonds?
22
             MS. CORDOVA: Correct.
23
             THE COURT: Okay.
                  And I guess that the - the condition that I saw
24
25
    was that they can't use social media to tout or not tout
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stocks and bonds, and that condition would be something to keep him in parity with the others. So, I don't care if he trades, as long as he's not using a social media account to try to get others to do what - what he wants them to do as is alleged in this Complaint.

MS. CORDOVA: Thank you, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Okay.

So -

CASE MANAGER: And, Judge, I just wanted to make sure that you wanted me to send to all three attorneys our blank; they'll fill it out, have their client sign and then, you'll approve it, right?

THE COURT: Well, for Cooperman, I think we have already done that, and he - we just need to enter an order saying he can go to Louisiana.

CASW MANAGER: Okay.

THE COURT: For the other two, yes, they need to - Ms. Cordova, if you will go ahead and take my standard form, which Ms. Felchak will send to you, mark - mark it up consistent with what the conditions of release are and should be according to my current order, give it to Mr. Carter. And then, I will - I will enter it.

MS. CORDOVA: Yes, Your Honor.

THE COURT: All right.

Anything else that we need to do then at this

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time?
 1
 2
             MR. CARTER: Not from the Government, Your Honor.
 3
             MS. CORDOVA: And not on behalf of Mr. Hennessey.
 4
                  Thank you, Your Honor.
 5
             THE COURT: All right.
 6
                  Thank you.
 7
                  You all have a good day.
 8
                  Thank you for coming in.
 9
             DEFENDANT HENNESSEY: Thank you, Your Honor.
10
             THE COURT: Thank you.
11
                  Good luck to all of ya'll.
12
                  I hope I don't see you again. That means that
1.3
    it - nothing's happened. If I have to see you again, that
14
    means something's happened, so.
15
             DEFENDANT HENNESSEY: Oh, no.
             THE COURT: Not that I want to see you, but I - it's
16
17
    better for you if you don't see me again.
18
             DEFENDANT HENNESSEY: Yes, ma'am.
19
                  Thank you, Your Honor.
20
             THE COURT: All right.
21
        (Proceedings concluded at 1:30:47 p.m.)
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23
24
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1	IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
2	FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
3	HOUSTON DIVISION
4	
5	I, Linda Griffin, court approved transcriber, certify that
6	the foregoing is a correct transcript from the official
7	electronic sound recording of the proceedings in the above-
8	entitled matter.
9	
10 11	/s/ Linda Griffin Linda Griffin Digital Scroll Transcription February 25, 2023 Date
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